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(rev. 11 98)
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CONTINUING PROSECUTION APPLICATION (CPA) REQUEST TRANSMITTAL

Submit an original, and a duplicate for fee processing.
(Only for Continuation or Divisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(d))

Address to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents Box CPA Washington, DC 20231	Attorney Docket No.	12610-3070 (46116-245151)
	Named Inventor(s)	
	Zhong-Cheng Hu	
	Examiner Name	D. Metzmaier
	Group/Art Unit	1712
	Express Mail Label No.	EL 910743585 US

This is a request for a ☒ continuation or ☐ divisional application under 37 CFR 1.53(d), (continued prosecution application (CPA)) of prior application number 09/397,814, filed on September 17, 1999, entitled Sol-Gel Processing with Inorganic Metal Salt Precursors Management Properties.

NOTES

FILING QUALIFICATIONS: The prior application identified above must be a nonprovisional application that is either: (1) complete as defined by 37 CFR 1.51(b), or (2) the national stage of an international application in compliance with 35 U.S.C. 371. A Notice will be placed on a patent issuing from a CPA, except for reissues and designs, to the effect that the patent issued on a CPA and is subject to the twenty-year patent term provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 154(a)(2). Therefore, the prior application of a CPA may have been filed before, on or after June 8, 1995.

C-I-P NOT PERMITTED: A continuation-in-part application cannot be filed as a CPA under 37 CFR 1.53(d), but must be filed under 37 CFR 1.53(b).

EXPRESS ABANDONMENT OF PRIOR APPLICATION: The filing of this CPA is a request to expressly abandon the prior application as of the filing date of the request for a CPA. 37 CFR 1.53(b) must be used to file a continuation, divisional, or continuation-in-part of an application that is not to be abandoned.

ACCESS TO PRIOR APPLICATION: The filing of this CPA will be construed to include a waiver of confidentiality by the applicant under 35 U.S.C. 122 to the extent that any member of the public who is entitled under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.14 to access to, copies of, or information concerning, the prior application may be given similar access to, copies of, or similar information concerning, the other application or applications in this file jacket.

35 U.S.C. 120 STATEMENT: In a CPA, no reference to the prior application is needed in the first sentence of the specification and none should be submitted. If a sentence referencing the prior application is submitted, it will not be entered. A request for a CPA is the specific reference required by 35 U.S.C. 120 and to every application assigned the application number identified in such request, 37 CFR 1.78(a).

1. ☐ Enter the unentered amendment previously filed on _____ under 37 CFR 1.116 in the prior nonprovisional application.
2. ☒ A preliminary amendment is enclosed.
3. ☐ This application is filed by fewer than all the inventors named in the prior application, 37 CFR 1.53(d)(4).
 - a. ☐ **DELETE** the following inventor(s) named in the prior nonprovisional application:

 - b. ☐ The inventor(s) to be deleted are set forth on a separate sheet attached hereto.
4. ☐ A new power of attorney or authorization of agent is enclosed.
5. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) is enclosed:
 - a. ☐ PTO-1449
 - b. ☐ Copies of IDS Citations

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CLAIMS	FOR	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE	CALCULATIONS
	TOTAL CLAIMS	49 - 20* =	29	* \$18 =	\$522
	INDEPENDENT CLAIMS	4 - 3** =	1	* \$84 =	\$84
	MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS (if applicable)			+ \$280 =	\$1346
				BASIC FEE	\$
				Total of above Calculations =	\$1346
				Reduction by 50% for filing by small entity	\$
				TOTAL =	\$1346

6. ☐ Small entity status: Applicant claims small entity status.
7. ☒ A check in the amount of \$1346 is enclosed.
8. ☒ [ONLY if 7. applies] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to credit overpayments or charge any additional fees under 37 CFR 1.16 or 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 11-0855.
9. a. ☐ Receipt for Facsimile Transmitted CPA
b. ☒ Return Receipt Postcard (Should be specifically itemized)
10. ☒ Other: Petition for two-month extension of time

NOTE: The prior application's correspondence address will carry over to this CPA UNLESS a new correspondence address is provided below.

11. **NEW CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS**

☒ Customer Number or Bar Code Label



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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

12. SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT OR ATTORNEY REQUIRED	
Name	Theodore M. Green
Signature	<i>Theodore M. Green</i>
Registration No.	41,801
Date	March 4, 2002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: **Zhong-Cheng Hu**)
) Art Unit: 1712
 Serial No.: **09/397,814**)
) Examiner: **Metzmaier, D.**
 Filed: **September 17, 1999**)
)
 For: **Sol-Gel Processing With Inorganic**)
Metal Salt Precursors)
Management Properties)

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks
 Washington, DC 20231

Sirs:

Further to the Continuing Prosecution Application mailed March 4, 2002 and prior to examination of the patent application identified above, please enter the following amendments and consider the appended remarks.

In the Claims:

Please amend Claims 1, 12, 17, 22, 29-30, 34, 40, 43 and 50 as follows:

1. (Amended) A method of sol-gel processing using an inorganic metal salt and a mixed solvent system, comprising:

preparing a solution including an inorganic metal salt, water, and an organic solvent having a metal salt concentration and a volume ratio of organic solvent to water;

incubating the solution at a temperature less than about 90° C for a period of time;

wherein the metal salt concentration, volume ratio of organic solvent to water, temperature, and time are selected to provide a sol or a gel having desired characteristics;

wherein the sol or the gel is capable of forming a coating;